

Springfield, Mass.

PROGRAMME

1636

1911



275th

ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOUNDING OF
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

F74
.S7566



COOLEY'S HOTEL IN 1864

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

FORASMUCH as it has pleased the Almighty God to bring peace, plenty and prosperity to the ancient town of Springfield upon the River Connecticut, and whereas it was two hundred and seventy-five years ago this day that y^e town was settled by William Pynchon and his companions,

Therefore, Be it known that this day is set apart from all others, to be observed in due form and proper spirit, without undue pomp or pageantry, as becomes the ideals of our forefathers.

And further, be it known, that as y^e town has lived in unity of purpose so shall it live through the ages.

And therefore, Citizens of Springfield, observe this day by rejoicing in the fullness of your lives and the fruitfulness of your labors. Greet your neighbors and the stranger within our gates that all may be one and that one may be all.

Given this 26th day of May in the 275th year of the town and the 58th year of the city.

E. H. LATHROP, *Mayor*

God Save Springfield





MAIN STREET AND HARRISON AVENUE IN 1888

275th Anniversary Committees

COL. AUGUST H. GOETTING, *Chairman*

EVERETT E. BELDING, *Secretary*

WILLIAM F. ADAMS BREWER CORCORAN JOSEPH C. ALLEN

MATTHEW H. FARRELL GEN. EMBURY P. CLARK

CHARLES B. HITCHCOCK WILLIAM M. STEVENSON

(Appointed by MAYOR E. H. LATHROP)

Luncheon

Ralph K. Safford, *Chairman* Edward S. Bradford Charles T. Shean
Charles H. Hall James R. Miller

Exercises at Theatre

Brewer Corcoran, *Chairman* Dwight O. Gilmore E. N. Richards
E. L. Burke Kenneth Robbie

Cashiers at Theatre

Geo. E. Howard, *Chairman* Thomas W. Hyde Robert P. Marsh
Marvin C. Birnie Robert Medlicott James Kempton
Frederick Hopkins George Robinson

Historical Loan Exhibit

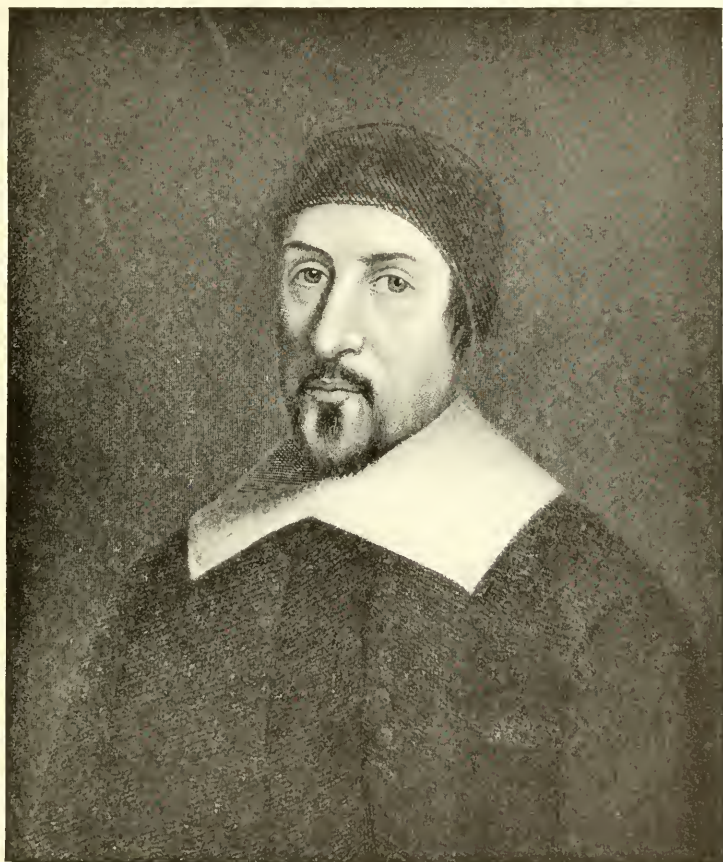
Clifford B. Potter, *Chairman* Henry C. Haile, *Vice-Chairman*
HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT—Prof. J. T. Bowne, *Chairman*, Col. Stanhope E. Blunt, Edward S. Brewer, Charles A. Frazer, Rev. J. H. Lockwood, Oscar B. Ireland, Hiller C. Wellman, Mrs. James L. Johnson, Miss Ambia C. Harris, Mrs. Frederick Harris, Mrs. Wm. A. Lincoln, Mrs. James B. Carroll, Mrs. Wm. G. Wheat, Mrs. Wm. F. Adams, Miss Ida F. Farrar.


PORTRAITS—Henry A. Booth, *Chairman*, Francke W. Dickinson, Dexter P. Lillie, Charles H. Barrows, Robert O. Morris, Henry C. Haile, Harold A. Ley, Mrs. Richard F. Hawkins, Miss M. Louise Dunbar, Miss Claribel H. Smith, Mrs. A. H. Watson, Miss Estella M. Lapham, Mrs. Geo. Pirnie.

ART—Rev. Dr. Harwood Huntington, *Chairman*, Charles H. Hall, H. C. Rowley, Frank G. Tobey, Rev. Dr. J. L. R. Trask, J. Stuart Kirkham, Charles L. Goodhue, Mrs. A. A. Packard, Mrs. Frank H. Wesson, Mrs. G. W. V. Smith, Mrs. A. B. Wallace, Mrs. H. H. Bowman, Miss Eleanor A. Wade, Mrs. Edmond H. Smith.

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Founded by William Pynchon, 1636



William Pynchon 





OLD RAILROAD STATION AND GRADE CROSSING IN 1888

275th Anniversary Committees

Historical Sketches

Henry Lasker, *Chairman*

Henry N. Bowman

Robert C. Pepper, *Secretary*

Kurt R. Sternberg

Observances in Schools—Joseph C. Allen

Observances in Churches—Everett E. Belding

Invitations

Brewer Corcoran, *Chairman*

Charles B. Hitchcock

Gen. E. P. Clark

Programs

A. L. S. Wood, *Chairman*

Ralph R. French

Kenneth Robbie

Press

Alfred L. S. Wood, *Chairman*

Ralph R. French

John B. Callaghan

William E. Wallace

Medals

Brewer Corcoran, *Chairman*

Charles B. Hitchcock

Robert F. Day

Henry J. Beebe, Jr.

Harold A. Ley

William F. Adams

Flags

Everett E. Belding, *Chairman*

J. T. Schauweker

Decorations—Oscar Buchholz

Town Criers

COL. CHARLES L. YOUNG, *Chief Crier*

J. R. Ramsay
H. C. Cassidy
W. J. Hyland
S. C. Pike
W. T. Butman
H. E. Cook
T. H. Fleming
George M. Gay
Henry Bryant
Earl W. Bryant
E. C. Hazen
H. R. Dole

R. P. Smith
E. C. Davis
Louis Brams, Jr.
H. H. Knapp
C. D. Root
Henry Packard
E. B. Alvord
J. B. Harrington
Walter Hicks
Harry Cooley
Harry Cady

W. A. Leison
T. W. Burden
B. M. Collins
E. B. Calef
E. R. Burger
J. F. O'Hanlon
T. J. Lasares
J. J. Hughes
J. F. Foss
John Hodges
E. Carl Moore



RIVER FROM PECOSCIC HILL IN 1875

Programme for the Day

6 A. M. — Sunrise Guns will fire a Salute to be followed by Salutes by the Whistles and Bells of the city.

PROCLAMATION BY THE TOWN CRIERS.

EXERCISES IN ALL THE SCHOOLS.

E. A. R. Speakers

Central High School and Worthington Street, Col. John L. Rice.

Technical High and Lincoln School, Major H. M. Brewster.

Armory Street, Commander Henry M. Smith.

Barrows and Eastern Avenue, Horace Goodwin.

Belmont Avenue and Kensington Avenue, James Anderson.

Buckingham, William B. Covil.

Carew Street, James B. Keene.

Central Street and White Street, Rev. E. S. Witherell.

Chestnut Street, Oscar B. Ireland.

East Union Street, Orrison J. Tarbox.

Homer Street, George D. Shaw.

Hooker Street, T. S. Stewart.

Howard Street and State Street, J. W. Hersey.

Indian Orchard Grammar, Rob Roy McGregor.

Jefferson Avenue, Theodore Mance.

School Street, Col. S. C. Warriner.

South Main Street, Dwight M. Chapman.

Tapley School, John E. Stannard.

William Street, William H. Hawkins.

Programme for the Day—continued

6.30 P. M.—BAND CONCERT ON COURT SQUARE.

Program

1. MARCH, Colonel Estey *Bagley*
2. OVERTURE, William Tell *Rossini*
3. SELECTION, The Chocolate Soldier *Strauss*
4. ECHOES FROM THE METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE *Tobani*
5. REMINISCENCES OF SCOTLAND *Godfrey*
6. BARITONE SOLO, Selected *Carbonachi*
7. GRAND FANTASIA, Mephistopheles *Tobani*
8. SELECTION, Bright Eyes *Hoschna*
9. AMERICAN FANTASIE *Herbert*

8 P. M.—EXERCISES IN COURT SQUARE THEATRE.

1. CONCERT

HARDY'S ORCHESTRA

2. READING OF ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION BY TOWN CLERK

CHARLES L. YOUNG

3. INVOCATION, Pastor of the First Church

REV. DR. NEIL McPHERSON

4. OPENING CHORUS, The Land of the Free *Whitmark*

CALHOUN CLUB, Edwin N. Richards, *Director*

5. ADDRESS

MAYOR EDWARD H. LATHROP

6. ADDRESS, Springfield of the Past

CHARLES H. BARROWS

7. SONG, Those Songs My Mother Used to Sing *Smith*

E. A. SWIFT and CALHOUN CLUB

8. ADDRESS, Springfield of the Present

WILLIAM G. McKECHNIE

9. ANNIVERSARY POEM *Charles Goodrich Whiting*

Read by REV. DR. PHILIP S. MOXOM

10. PATRIOTIC MEDLEY, Lest We Forget *Edwin N. Richards*

CALHOUN CLUB

11. AWARDING OF PRIZES, For the Historical Essays by School Children

COL. GOETTING

12. ADDRESS, Springfield of the Future

C. W. BOSWORTH

13. AMERICA

CALHOUN CLUB and the Audience

HISTORIC LOAN EXHIBIT —

10 A. M. until 10 P. M. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, in the Chapel of the First Church, Court Square.



LOOKING NORTH FROM 185



LOOKING EAST FROM 185



T LEVEL, MUNICIPAL TOWER



LEVEL, MUNICIPAL TOWER



PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S VISIT IN 1899

Programme for the Day—continued

The Speakers in the High Schools

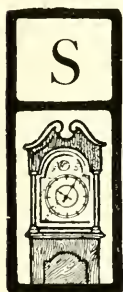
- MONDAY. Charles H. Barrows, "The Pynchons and the Settlement of Springfield."
- TUESDAY. Henry A. Booth, "Life in Springfield in the Colonial Days."
- WEDN'Y. Prof. Jacob T. Bowne, "The Settlers and the Indians."
- FRIDAY. William G. McKechnie, "Springfield and Shays' Rebellion."





TRIUMPHAL ARCH, 250TH ANNIVERSARY, MAY 25 AND 26, 1886

Springfield 1636 and 1911



SINCE the history of Springfield was written for the programme of the celebration of the 250th anniversary the city has more than shared the progress of the country. It has grown from a population of 37,577 in 1885 to 88,926 in 1910; its property valuation has grown from \$36,782,202 in 1886 to \$119,081,778; its taxes in 1886 amounted to \$530,435.22, in 1910 to \$1,976,705 11. The tax rate has only increased from \$12.80 on one thousand dollars to \$15.80.

In these twenty-five years of its greatest growth the city has experienced no "boom" with its inevitable reaction; there have been no overwhelming disasters to retard the steady growth of Western Massachusetts' greatest city.

The railroad problem, solved by means of the Arch and the re-establishment of grades since the history of 1886 was written, again has been outgrown and the city is deciding on a new plan to embrace a Riverfront park and possibly the removal of the railroad tracks to the west bank of the river.

The City Hall built in 1854 was burned January 5, 1905 and is being replaced by a million dollar group that will be one of the most beautiful in the United States. The exterior of the Auditorium has been completed and the clock tower has just reached its height of 300 feet.

Since 1886 the city has witnessed and taken its part in the development of the trolley system, automobiles and aeroplanes. The country has fought a war with Spain. Springfield sent her full quota into Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines and the camps of the South and her sons won generous laurels for themselves and their native city.

In the constructive history of the city noteworthy achievements have been made in every department. The merchants have prospered and their markets have widened; the industries have increased in number, value and variety; the school system has taken a position among the foremost in the country; Forest Park has been conceived and become a reality; the city has met and conquered its slum problem with playgrounds, boys' club and intelligent settlement work; the "Safe and Sane Fourth of July" idea, born here has been fostered and the Springfield celebration is unique. No city in the United States boasts greater or more justifiable civic pride than Springfield, where every citizen feels personal responsibility for the government of his home town and has a place in municipal business and pleasure.

Springfield 1636 and 1911

The following account of the settlement of Springfield is from King's Handbook of Springfield and was printed in the programme of the celebration of the 250th anniversary:

"On the 6th of May, 1635 (Five years after the settlement of Boston), the inhabitants of Roxbury had liberty granted them to remove themselves to any place they should think meet, not to prejudice another plantation, provided they should continue under the government of Massachusetts. In accordance with this permission, William Pynchon, a patentee and magistrate under the colony charter, and others, came with their families from Roxbury and located themselves, in the spring of 1636, at Springfield, then known by its Indian name of Agawam.

"On the 14th of May, 1636, Mr. Pynchon, Henry Smith (Pynchon's son-in-law), Matthew Mitchell, Jehu Burr, William Blake, Edmund Wood, Thomas Ufford and John Cable signed a written agreement of the settlement.

"None of the signers of this agreement, except Pynchon and Smith remained here long. Most of them left within three years. Other settlers came, and on the 16th of May twelve persons received allotments of land.

"Soon after their arrival the settlers entered into negotiation with the Indians for the purchase of a site for the plantation. The land was valuable to the Indians mainly as affording a range for hunting and fishing, and the gathering of nuts and wild fruits that grew spontaneously. In addition, they had small patches of cultivated ground, where they raised their corn. They were willing to sell to the planters the land they required, reserving to themselves only such uses of it as they were accustomed to enjoy.

"Accordingly, by a deed executed with due formality on the 15th of July, 1636,—for the purport of which was explained to them by an Indian interpreter from the Bay,—two of the 'ancient Indians of Agawam,' for themselves and eleven other Indians who claimed to be proprietors of the land, conveyed to William Pynchon, Henry Smith, and Jehu Burr, their heirs and associates forever a large tract of land on both sides of the river, including the greater part of the land now occupied by the city of Springfield. For this deed Pynchon and his associates paid a consideration which was satisfactory to the Indians, and of which they never complained.

"The first settlers built their houses on the westerly side of the town street, which was about eighty rods easterly of the river and substantially parallel to it.

"The first allotment of lands was made in May, 1636, to the eight signers of the agreement, and four others who had joined them. As most of these twelve persons left the plantation soon, their allotment of land was afterward greatly altered by a new division, which was the basis of the permanent settlement. This new division assigned to each man a home lot extending from the street to the river, with a portion of the meadow and upland of equal width on the easterly side of the street. In general these home lots were eight rods wide. Pynchon and a few others had lots much wider. The town street of that day corresponded, substantially with the present Main street of the city, in its general course. Besides this principal street, there were three narrow lanes leading from it to the river. These with greatly increased width, are now represented by Elm street, York street and Cypress street. The only road running easterly from the town street was in some part of its course the same as the present State street.

"In 1636 the plantation of Agawam was supposed to be in the same jurisdiction as Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield; and the government of these four towns was administered by commissioners appointed by the General Court of Massachusetts. Pynchon and Smith were members of this commission, and Pynchon attended its session at Hartford. A more accurate survey of the division-line between Massachusetts and Connecticut established the fact, that Agawam fell within the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, and left the settler here temporarily without any magis-

Springfield 1636 and 1911

trate, and at such a distance from the Bay as to be practically beyond the reach of the authorities there.

"In this exigency, the planters of Agawam met on the 14th of February, 1639, and voted that Mr. Pyncheon should execute the office of a magistrate in the plantation, with all the powers necessary to administer justice until the General Court should otherwise order. Under this authority Mr. Pyncheon acted until June, 1641, when he was duly commissioned by the General Court with similar powers.

"On the 14th of April, 1641, the name of the town was changed, by a vote of the inhabitants, from Agawam to Springfield. This is said to have been a compliment to Pyncheon, whose residence in England had been a place of that name. The General Court recognized the town by the name of Springfield in 1644.

"Prior to 1647 the bounds of the town were quite indefinite. In 1638, old style, (1639 as time is now reckoned) a committee, appointed for the purpose, described the northern boundary as at a brook on the other side of the river about a quarter of a mile above the mouth of Chicopee river. The brook at the lower end of the long meadow on the east side of the river, and the brook a little below on the west side, are mentioned as the southerly boundary. No east or west boundary is given.

"In the year 1647 the General Court made very large additions to the town of Springfield: so that it included Westfield, Suffield, a considerable part of Southwick, and the whole of West Springfield, Holyoke and Agawam on the west side of the river; and the present Springfield, Chicopee, Enfield, Somers, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Longmeadow, and Hampden on the east side of the river.

"In the year 1649 the subject of witchcraft attracted some attention in Springfield. One Mary Parsons, wife of Hugh Parsons, had circulated a report that a widow named Marshfield, who had removed from Windsor to Springfield was guilty of witchcraft, an offence then punishable with death. For this story the widow commenced an action before Mr. Pyncheon, against Mary Parsons; and the magistrate finding her guilty of this slander, sentenced her to pay three pounds to the plaintiff, or else to be whipped twenty lashes by the constable.

"Two years later, in May 1651, Mary Parsons was herself charged with the crime of witchcraft. She was indicted for having used divers devilish practices by witchcraft to the hurt of Martha and Rebeckah Moxon, two daughters of the minister. For this offence she was tried at Boston before the General Court, but acquitted for want of satisfactory evidence. Upon the charge of murdering her own child, on which she was charged at the same time, she was convicted, and sentenced to death.

"About this time (1651) Mr. Pyncheon incurred the displeasure of the General Court on account of a theological book, published in England, which was alleged to contain heretical sentiments. The charge of heresy was a very serious one at that day; and when Pyncheon admitted the authorship of the work, and, after being admonished by the Court, and dealt with by leading divines of the colony, selected to convince him of his errors, failed to make a satisfactory recantation of them, he felt himself to be, and was, in no little peril. As the result of the difficulty he left America, and returned to England, in 1652, where he died a few years afterward. Henry Smith, his son-in-law, — although designated as his successor in the magistracy in Springfield, — and Mr. Moxon, the minister, accompanied Pyncheon to England. Neither of them returned to this country. Two members of Mr. Pyncheon's family, remained in Springfield, his son, John Pyncheon, and his son-in-law Elizur Holyoke.

"After the departure of Pyncheon and Smith, Springfield was destitute of any local magistracy. To provide for this exigency, the General Court, in October 1652, appointed three commissioners as magistrates, to govern the town. These were John Pyncheon, Elizur Holyoke and Samuel Chapin.

"In 1660 was built the first brick building ever erected in Springfield. It was the dwelling house of John Pyncheon, who is called in the records

Springfield 1636 and 1911

'The Worshipful Major Pynchon' and, later: 'The Worshipful Colonel.' The bricks used in this construction were made in Northampton. The carpenters and masons were from Windsor. The building was 12 feet long and 21 feet wide. The walls were very thick and solid, rising about 22 feet from the ground to the eaves. The roof was very steep and the ridge was about 22 feet in perpendicular height above the garret floor. It was designed to be a fortified house, and was actually used as such during the Indian war.

"This building remained in the occupation of the Pynchons until it was demolished, in 1831, to make room for a more modern house. It was long known as the 'old fort.' The wooden house which had been the home of William Pynchon was connected with the new brick house and made to serve as an appendage to it. It was removed in 1831 to the easterly part of Cross street where in an altered state, in 1886, it serves as a dwelling house and laundry.

"Until the year 1675, the relations of the people of Springfield with the Indians were amicable and pleasant. The Indian sold his beaver and other furs to Pynchon, and, in return, purchased from him such goods as Pynchon kept in store as suited to the Indian's needs. Firearms and ammunition only were prohibited articles. The redmen roamed the streets of the town, and visited freely the houses of the whites. No cause of dissatisfaction or discontent was known to exist on the part of the Indians. They had what was known as a fort in the southerly part of the town, but this created no uneasiness on the part of their white neighbors. Probably the whole Indian population in the town and its immediate vicinity did not exceed two hundred persons.

"In 1675 the disturbances fomented by Philip, the chief of the Wampanoags, began in the southeastern part of the state, and gradually spread westward until they reached the valley of the Connecticut. Philip himself was said to have visited the Agawan Indians, and induced them to join the confederacy against the whites. About 300 hostile Indians were secretly introduced into their fort, and every preparation made to assault Springfield and slaughter its inhabitants. The time was favorable for the attempt. The soldiers who had been stationed here as a garrison were temporarily absent with Major Pynchon, their commander, on an expedition about 20 miles up the river, to check some hostile demonstrations there. The intention of Philip's men became known to the people at Windsor through the disclosures of a friendly Indian; and timely warning was sent to Springfield, and to Major Pynchon at Hadley. The people generally took refuge in the fortified houses of which there were three, one of them the Pynchon house and the others in the south part of the street. Three men and one woman were killed by the Indians. Thirty-two houses and twenty-five barns were burned, with Major Pynchon's corn-mill and saw-mill.

"Discouraged by these disasters, occurring just as winter was approaching, and fearful of the suffering likely to follow the destruction of their houses and stores which they had gathered for the winter, many of the inhabitants were inclined to abandon the town, and seek a home elsewhere. But wiser counsels prevailed and most of them remained to repair the losses they had sustained. After this manifestation of their treachery the Indians withdrew from Springfield."

